GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6665
ANSWERED ON:09.05.2000
QUACKERY
AMAR ROY PRADHAN;M.V.V.S MURTHI;SHIVAJI MANE

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned `Increase in quackery` appearing in the Hindu, dated April 22, 2000;

(b) if so, whether quackery is assuming dangerous proportions in the capital;

(c) whether the Government have conducted any survey to identify the number of quacks functioning in the country especially in Delhi;

(d) if so, the names of States where survey has been completed and the outcome thereof;

(e) the time by which the survey in the remaining States is likely to be completed; and

(f) the steps taken by the Government to check the functioning of such quacks?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE)

(SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM)

(a) The Government has seen the news report.

(b)&(c) As per the information furnished by the Government of NCT of Delhi no survey has been conducted to identify the number of quacks. However, the Government of NCT of Delhi had conducted 283 raids during the year 1997-98 and 1998-99 through its Directorate of Health Services and identified 63 doctors against whom the complaint have been made to the police for taking further necessary action.

(d)&(e) The State Governments are required to identify persons practising without having required medical qualifications.State Government have not informed this Department of surveys done or proposed survey.

(f) A person cannot legally practice any system of medicine unless he possesses recognised medical qualification and is registered with the respective councils.